

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-04 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-04 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

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INFO USMISSION BERLIN

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16089

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN ETRD EEC COMECON

SUBJ: FRG NEGOTIATION OF NEW ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH
USSR

REF: A) BONN 16622; B) USEC 8054; C) MOSCOW 15879 (NOTAL);

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D) MOSCOW 15352 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: IN EFFORT TO PARTIALLY SATISFY SOVIET DEMANDS FOR NEGOTIATION OF NEW FRG-USSR BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT BEFORE END OF THIS YEAR, FRG HAS AGREED TO NEGOTIATE A VERY GENERAL, FIVE-YEAR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH USSR--AN APPROACH SIMILAR TO THAT BEING TAKEN BY THE FRENCH. FRG EMBASSY MOSCOW, WHICH IS HANDLING NEGOTIATIONS, REGARDS NEW AGREEMENT AS "SUB-AGREEMENT" TO EXISTING TEN-YEAR ECONOMIC COOPERATION PROTOCOL. SUBJECTS OF TRADE AND MFN ARE EXCLUDED, SINCE THESE WILL COME WITHIN COMPETENCE OF EC COMMISSION AFTER 1, JAN 1975. NEGOTIATIONS CURRENTLY STALLED BECAUSE OF SOVIET INSISTENCE THAT A 1958 FRG-USSR AGREEMENT GRANTING MFN TO USSR, ALSO REMAIN IN FORCE, BUT FRG EMBASSY MOSCOW CONFIDENT THAT SOVIETS WILL EVENTUALLY YIELD. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTS INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REF A REGARDING SOVIET EFFORTS TO BYPASS IMMINENT EC COMMISSION ASSUMPTION OF RIGHT OF NEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF EC GOVERNMENTS.

3. DURING OCT 23 DISCUSSION FRG EMBASSY MOSCOW ECONOMIC OFFICER HAS PROVIDED DETAILS ON NEW ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT WHICH FRG IS CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING WITH USSR TO ACCOMMODATE PRESISTENT SOVIET DEMANDS FOR "A NEW TRADE AGREEMENT" TO REPLACE FRG-USSR AGREEMENT WHICH EXPIRES AT END OF THIS YEAR. URGENCY OF SOVIET REQUESTS OBVIOUSLY FUELED BY DESIRE TO CIRCUMVENT EC DEADLINE WHICH REQUIRES THAT ALL EC COUNTRY COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES, INCLUDING STATE TRADING COUNTRIES, MUST BE NEGOTIATED THROUGH EC COMMISSION IN BRUSSELS AFTER JAN 1, 1975. SOVIETS THEREFORE WISH NEGOTIATE BEFORE JAN 1 DATE SOME NEW AGREEMENT WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO BE VALID AFTER THAT TIME.

4. FRG IS TAKING SAME APPROACH TO THIS MATTER AS THAT BEING TAKEN BY FRANCE, REPORTED REF. C. IT IS NEGOTIATING VERY GENERAL AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION WHICH IT REGARDS AS "SUB-AGREEMENT" TO EXISTING TEN-YEAR COOPERATION PROTOCOL. CONFIDENTIAL

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NEW AGREEMENT WILL INCLUDE CLAUSES FAVORING IMPROVED "BUSINESS FACILITATION" FOR FRG FIRMS MAINTAINING REPRESENTATIVES IN MOSCOW. ALSO, AT SOVIET REQUEST, WILL INCLUDE CLAUSE EXPRESSING WILLINGNESS BOTH SIDES TO SUPPORT BEST POSSIBLE TERMS FOR MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM BANKING CREDITS. (FRG HAS INSISTED THAT THERE BE NO REFERENCE TO STATE CREDITS.)

5. ONE POINT WHICH IS CURRENTLY AN OBSTACLE TO QUICK CONCLUSION OF NEW AGREEMENT IS SOVIET DEMAND THAT IT NOT RPT NOT RESULT IN ABROGATION OF 1958 USSR-FRG TRADE AND MARITIME AGREEMENT. SOVIETS WISH TO KEEP THIS AGREEMENT IN FORCE BECAUSE IT CONTAINS MFN CLAUSE, AND INSIST THAT IT REMAIN IN FORCE PARALLEL TO NEW COOPERATION SUG-AGREEMENT. THEY ALSO CLAIM THAT ABOLITION OF 1958 AGREEMENT WILL REMOVE LEGAL BASIS FOR THEIR PRESENT TRADE REPRESENTATION OFFICES IN KOLN.

6. ALTHOUGH NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH ARE BEING CONDUCTED AT FRG EMBASSY MOSCOW, ARE CURRENTLY DEADLOCKED ON ISSUE OF OLD 1958 AGREEMENT, FRG OFFICIALS ARE OPTIMISTIC THAT IMPASSE WILL BE RESOLVED AND THAT SOVIETS WILL BE FORCED TO YIELD ON MFN ISSUE AS STATED IN BONN'S 16622 (REF A.).
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